have no specific information about Osama bin Laden's top aide having established a base in Dhaka.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Filling up the posts of DD(OL)

2130. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 5182 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15th May, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the process to fill up the 20 posts of DD(OL) upgraded as per recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission, has been completed; and

(b) if so, the detalis thereof and if not, the reasons for which the persons against upgraded posts are not being promoted and by when the persons are likely to be promoted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) 20 posts of Joint Directors in Central Secretariat Official Language Service were created on 17.8.2001 by redistribution of 49 posts of Deputy Directors as per the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission. *Vide* orders dated 18.9.2001, Ministries/ Departments where these posts were to be upgraded were identified. However, the Central Secretariat Official Language Service Assistant Directors Association challenged the orders dated 17.8.2001 in the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi and the operation of the order dated 17.8.2001 was stayed by the Central Administrative Tribunal on 21.9.2001. The Government pursued the case and the Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to dismiss this case on 3.10.2002. Thereafter, a proposal for filling up all the newly upgraded posts of Joint Director has been sent to Union Public Service Commission. Appointments on these upgraded posts will be made immediately after receipt of the recommendations of the Union Public Service Commission.

Withdrawal of NSG commandos engaged for nabbing Veerappan

2131. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the abrupt withdrawal of NSG commandoes earlier deployed in Karnataka/Tamil Nadu to nab the forest brigand Veerappan;

(b) what other alternate support mechanism the Centre has provided to the concerned States in this regard; and

(c) whether Government have agreed to provide financial assistance to Karnataka to meet extra expenditure involved in deployment of police personnel and connected logistic support?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) NSG is a specialized force trained and equipped for high risk counter hijacking and counter terrorist operations. The operations of NSG are preceded by combing, search and cordon by other forces. Its commandos are used only for final assault. In such operations, prolonged deployment of NSG is not desirable. Therefore, NSG was withdrawn from Karnataka with an understanding that the force would be provided as and when required.

(b) and (c) Assistance in the form of arms, ammunition and equipments with technical intelligence support have been provided to the State Governments. Further the services of a CRPF officer have been placed at the disposal of STF Karnataka to facilitate operations against Veerappan and his gang. However, no financial assistance is being provided to Govt. of Karnataka for the purpose.

National Level Disaster Response Team

2132. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:
SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a National Level Disaster Response Team of Experts to ensure accidents are probed quickly and impartially and victims are identified to avoid legal complications at the time of payment of compensation ;

(b) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, by when such a response team of experts is likely to be formed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Home Affairs is responsible for coordinating/supplementing the rescue and relief efforts of the State Government by providing logistic support in the event of natural calamities